

43921  
DO

SERVICE DATE – LATE RELEASE JULY 24, 2014

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Docket No. EP 670 (Sub-No. 2)

NOTICE OF RAIL ENERGY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
VACANCY

AGENCY: Surface Transportation Board.

ACTION: Notice of vacancy on federal advisory committee and solicitation of nominations.

SUMMARY: The Surface Transportation Board (Board) hereby gives notice of one vacancy on its Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC) for a representative of a coal producer. The Board is soliciting suggestions from the public for a candidate to fill this vacancy.

DATES: Suggestions for a candidate for membership on RETAC are due August 25, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Suggestions may be submitted either via the Board's e-filing format or in the traditional paper format. Any person using e-filing should attach a document and otherwise comply with the instructions at the E-FILING link on the Board's website, at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>. Any person submitting a filing in the traditional paper format should send the original and 10 copies to: Surface Transportation Board, Attn: Docket No. EP 670 (Sub-No. 2), 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Michael H. Higgins at 202-245-0284. [Assistance for the hearing impaired is available through the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.]

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Board exercises broad authority over transportation by rail carriers, including regulation of railroad rates and service (49 U.S.C. §§ 10701-10747, 11101-11124), as well as the construction, acquisition, operation, and abandonment of rail lines (49 U.S.C. §§ 10901-10907), and railroad line sales, consolidations, mergers, and common control arrangements (49 U.S.C. §§ 10902, 11323-11327).

In 2007, the Board established RETAC as a federal advisory committee consisting of a balanced cross-section of energy and rail industry stakeholders to provide independent, candid policy advice to the Board and to foster open, effective

communication among the affected interests on issues such as rail performance, capacity constraints, infrastructure planning and development, and effective coordination among suppliers, carriers, and users of energy resources. RETAC operates subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2, §§ 1-16).

RETAC's membership is balanced and representative of interested and affected parties, consisting of not less than: five representatives from the Class I railroads; three representatives from Class II and III railroads; three representatives from coal producers; five representatives from electric utilities (including at least one rural electric cooperative and one state- or municipally-owned utility); four representatives from biofuel refiners, processors, or distributors, or biofuel feedstock growers or providers; one representative of the petroleum shipping industry; and, two representatives from private car owners, car lessors, or car manufacturers. RETAC may also include up to two members with relevant experience but not necessarily affiliated with one of the aforementioned industries or sectors. Members are selected by the Chairman of the Board with the concurrence of a majority of the Board. The Chairman may invite representatives from the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, Energy, and Transportation and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to serve on RETAC in advisory capacities as *ex officio* (non-voting) members. The three members of the Board serve as *ex officio* members of the Committee.

RETAC meets at least twice per year. Meetings are generally held at the Board's headquarters in Washington, D.C., but may be held in other locations. Members of RETAC serve without compensation and without reimbursement of travel expenses unless reimbursement of such expenses is authorized in advance by the Board's Managing Director. RETAC members appointed or reappointed after June 18, 2010, are prohibited from serving as federally registered lobbyists during their RETAC term. Further information about RETAC is available on the RETAC page of the Board's website at <http://www.stb.dot.gov/stb/rail/retac.html>.

The Board is soliciting nominations from the public for a candidate to fill one vacancy on RETAC for a representative of a coal producer, for a three-year term ending September 30, 2017.

Nominations for a candidate to fill this vacancy should be submitted in letter form and should include: (1) the name of the candidate; (2) the interest the candidate will represent; (3) a summary of the candidate's experience and qualifications for the position; (4) a representation that the candidate is willing to serve as a member of RETAC; and, (5) a representation that the candidate is not a federally registered lobbyist. Suggestions for a candidate for membership on RETAC should be filed with the Board by August 25, 2014. Please note that submissions will be available to the public at the Board's offices and posted on the Board's website under Docket No. EP 670 (Sub-No. 2).

This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. §§ 721; 49 U.S.C. 11101; 49 U.S.C. 11121.

Decided: July 24, 2014.

By the Board, Joseph H. Dettmar, Acting Director, Office of Proceedings.